

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 13530 01 OF 02 191438Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01

INT-08 DRC-01 /172 W

----- 005366

R 191424Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7507

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 13530

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW

SUBJECT: GERMAN DGB REACTION TO ALLENDE OVERTHROW IN
CHILE

REF: FRANKFURT 6008

SUMMARY

1. THE DGB AND SOME OF ITS AFFILIATED UNIONS REACTED TO THE ALLENDE OVERTHROW IN CHILE WITH CRITICAL STATEMENTS AND PARTICIPATION OF UNION MEMBERS, PARTICULARLY THE DGB YOUTH, IN LOCAL PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS SPONSORED BY THE SPD, AS WELL AS BY COMMUNIST PARTY (DKP) OR OTHER LEFT-IST GROUPS. THE DGB EXPRESSED ITS "DEEP CONCERN OVER THE SERIOUS EVENTS" AND SHARPLY CONDEMNED THE "ILLEGAL MILITARY ACTION." THE FRG'S LARGEST LABOR ORGANIZATION, THE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 13530 01 OF 02 191438Z

DGB METALWORKERS UNION (IG METALL), REAFFIRMED ITS SOLI-

DARITY WITH ALL "TRADE UNIONISTS AND DEMOCRATS" IN CHILE. SOME STATEMENTS IMPLIED THAT U.S. CORPORATIONS AND THE CIA HAD BEEN INVOLVED. END SUMMARY

2. THE DGB SAID IT WAS "DEEPLY DISMAYED AT THE SERIOUS EVENTS" WHICH HAVE SHAKEN CHILE. IT SHARPLY CONDEMNED THE "ILLEGAL MILITARY ACTION" AND ASSURED THE CHILEAN WORKERS OF ITS SYMPATHY AND ASSISTANCE.

3. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF IG METALL DECLARED THAT "IN VIEW OF THE MILITARY PUTSCH IN CHILE WE EXPRESS OUR SOLIDARITY WITH ALL TRADE UNIONISTS AND DEMOCRATS WHO THERE TODAY ARE EXPOSED TO PERSECUTION AND TERROR AND HAVE TO DEFEND THEIR RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES."

"THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE METALWORKERS UNION NOTES WITH INDIGNATION THE FORCEFUL AND BLOODY OVERTHROW OF A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT WHICH THROUGH SOCIAL REFORMS INTENDED TO CREATE MORE HUMANE CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPOVERISHED FARMWORKERS AND TENANT FARMERS, THE HUNGRY AND UNEMPLOYED FROM THE PUEBLOS AND THE UNDERPAID FACTORY WORKERS. LAWS AND RIGHTS UNDOUBTEDLY STOOD AT THE SIDE OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT WHICH INCLUDED ALL POLITICAL ELEMENTS ADVOCATING REFORMS INCLUDING THE LEFT-WING CATHOLICS.

"IT IS ALL THE MORE CHALLENGING THAT CONSERVATIVE FORCES IN THE FRG TAKE NOTE OF THE OVERTHROW OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT WITH ALMOST UNCONCEALED SATISFACTION. THUS THEY ARE TAKING SIDES WITH THE PRIVILEGED GROUPS IN CHILE WHO WERE PREPARED TO ABOLISH DEMOCRACY FOR THE DEFENSE OF THEIR ADVANTAGES AND WHO, IN ALLIANCE WITH RIGHT-WING EXTREMIST TERROR GROUPS SABOTAGED THE SOCIAL REFORMS BY BOYCOTT ACTIONS. HOPES FOR A DEMOCRATIC WAY TO GET OUT OF THE DILEMMA OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT AND DEPENDENCE IN LATIN AMERICA HAVE SUFFERED A SERIOUS SETBACK, THE STATEMENT CONCLUDED.

3. IG METALL'S PAPER "METALL" COMMENTS UNDER THE HEADLINE "MILITARY KILLS DEMOCRACY" THAT THE GOVERNMENT COALITION OF THE "UNIDAD POPULAR" WAS WORN OUT BY ORGANIZED CAPITAL FLIGHT, PERFIDIOUS MANEUVERS OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 13530 01 OF 02 191438Z

MULTINATIONALS AND THE CIA, THE PARALYZING OF TRANSPORT, SHIFTING OF VITAL CONSUMER GOODS TO THE BLACK MARKET, AND THROUGH SPECULATION AND PROFITEERING OF THE RICH WHO CREATED CHAOS. "METALL" MAINTAINED THAT ALLENDE WAS SEEKING NECESSARY REFORMS THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS. TO HIS LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC REFORM PROGRAM, ALLENDE'S OPPONENTS RESPONDED BY USING MACHINE GUNS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND CHASING HIM TO DEATH. WHOEVER SUPPRESSES SOCIAL

REFORMS BY BLOODY FORCE ONLY SOWS CIVIL WAR AND SOCIAL
REVOLUTION," THE UNION PAPER WARNED.

4. FORMER DGB METAL UNION OFFICIAL HANS MATTHOEFER, NOW
PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY IN THE FEDERAL FOREIGN AID
MINISTRY PARTICIPATED IN A FRANKFURT PROTEST DEMONSTRATION
SPONSORED BY LEFTIST GROUPS (SEE REF.). REACTING TO
THIS MATTHOEFER MOVE, THE HESSE CDU HAS ASKED CHANCELLOR
WILLY BRANDT TO DISSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM THE PARTICIPATION
OF A GOVERNMENT MEMBER IN A "CLEAR POPULAR FRONT DEMON-

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BONN 13530 02 OF 02 191435Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01

INT-08 DRC-01 /172 W

----- 005348

R 191424Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7508

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 13530

STRATION." IN A RADIO INTERVIEW ON SEPTEMBER 14,
MATTHOEFER EXPRESSED SUSPICION THAT MAJOR US CORPORATIONS

HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE ALLENDE OVERTHROW. "THE PUTSCH OF THE MILITARY WAS ONLY THE LAST PART OF A LONG DEVELOPMENT WHICH STARTED WITH THE U.S. IMPOSED CREDIT BLOCKADE AND THE STRIKES OF COPPER WORKERS AND TRUCK OWNERS. BOTH GROUPS DID NOT SUFFER FROM A LACK OF MONEY, HE ALLEGED. "I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT THESE THINGS HAD TO BE FINANCED FROM SOMEWHERE," HE SAID.

COMMENT

5. THIS UNION REACTION TO THE EVENTS IN CHILE CONTRASTS WITH THE RELATIVELY MILD CRITICISM OF THE PROSECUTION OF SOVIET INTELLECTUALS. ON THE LATTER, THERE HAS BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 13530 02 OF 02 191435Z

NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT SO FAR ON THE PART OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE DGB AND ANY MAJOR AFFILIATE. AFTER PROTESTS WERE EXPRESSED BY WEST GERMAN LEFT-WING WRITERS AND INTELLECTUALS, SOME CRITICAL BUT LOW KEY COMMENT APPEARED IN SOME UNION JOURNALS. "METALL" COMBINED ITS CRITICISM WITH AN ATTACK ON THE "RIGHT-WING EXTREMISTS OF THE CDU/CSU, STRAUSS AND DREGGER, WHO LIKE COLD WARRIORS OF THE SPRINGER PRESS, ARE NOT INTERESTED IN HUMANITY, BUT IN DEFAMATION AND PREVENTION OF THE VITAL POLICY OF DETENTE."

6. ACTION REQUESTED. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE LABOR REACTIONS, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ASAP BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON AFL-CIO AND ORIT REACTION TO THE CURRENT CHILE SITUATION.
HILLENBRAND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, LABOR UNIONS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, COMMUNISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN13530
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730925/aaaaasja.tel
Line Count: 203
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: FRANKFURT 6008
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jul-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GERMAN DGB REACTION TO ALLENDE OVERTHROW IN CHILE
TAGS: ELAB, GE, CI, (ALLENDE, SALVADOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005